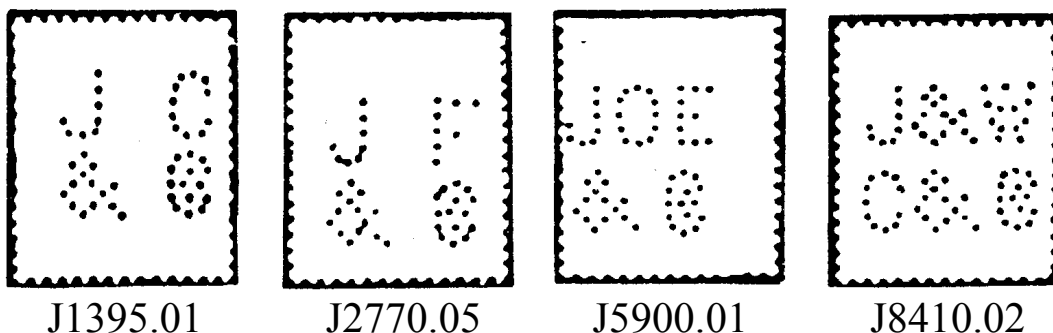


As announced in recent Bulletins, the 'J' section of the New Illustrated Catalogue of GB Perfins is progressing well, with parts 1 & 2 already published and the 3rd and final part almost complete. This in-depth look at the J's has resulted in some interesting observations.

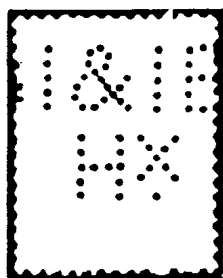


For example, although it is already known that perfins can be found which show 'Company' as an 'o' inside a 'C', a pattern is emerging in that the great majority of them have Glasgow (Duplex 159) postmarks. No less than seven examples occur in the J's, four of which have been illustrated above, along with a table below listing known details for all seven.

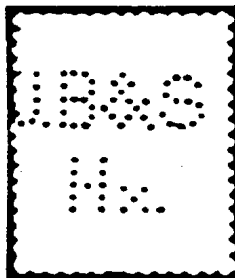
Cat No.	Letters	Issues	Die in use	Known Dates	Postmarks
J0640.06	JB/&C <sup>o</sup>	B,E	1895-1900	29/1/1897	Glasgow
J1395.01	JC/&C	A,B,D,E	1881-1895		Glasgow
J2770.05	JF/&C	B,E	1890-1895	23/5/1892- 11/11/1893	Glasgow
J4930.08	JL/&C <sup>o</sup>	A,B,F	1878-1904	23/6/1883 - 4/6/1904	Glasgow
J5900.01	JOE/&C <sup>o</sup>	B,E	1890-1895	13/11/1893	Glasgow
J6460.05	JR/&C <sup>o</sup>	B	1890-1895		Glasgow
J8410.02	J&W/C&C <sup>o</sup>	A,B,E	1880-1900	25/9/1895	Glasgow

No doubt many other examples can be found by scouring both the Old and New Illustrated Catalogues. Be aware though that not all examples will necessarily have Glasgow postmarks. However, it may well turn out that an alphabet can be established for this particular die maker, who for the moment I will simply call "Mr Oinco", who was working in or around Glasgow from the late 1870's through to the 1890's.

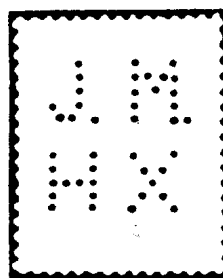
Also worthy of a mention is the practice for perfin users in Halifax to abbreviate their town name to 'fix'<sup>1</sup> rather than simply 'H'. Three examples are illustrated below.



I1230.01

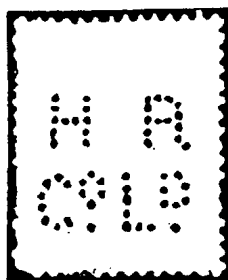


J0985.01

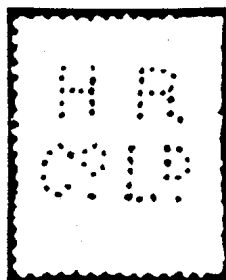


J5360.01

Every now and again a distinctive letter shape crops up, this time it was the 'R' in JR/C9L<sup>1</sup>? (J6533.01) that took my eye. Fortunately I had made a note of the last time I had seen it which lead me to the two variations shown for HR/C?L.



H6157.01

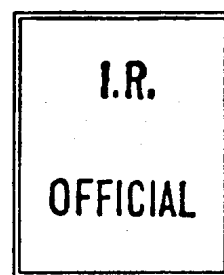
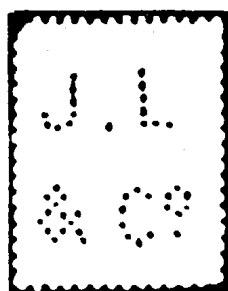


H6157.01a



J6533.01

And finally, another Official Overprint has been found with a perfin - J.L/&C? (J4940.06) on I.R./OFFICIAL dated 3 June 1885. Stanley Gibbons records that these Official stamps were on sale to the public for a short time at Somerset House.



J4940.06

Interestingly, Arthur Smith tells me that he reported two similar examples ten years ago in Bulletin No.223 - D.S. (D4370.01) with I.R./OFFICIAL, and NS/PCC (N3080.03) with BOARD/OF/EDUCATION - but are there any more out there?